

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 2-26 have been amended and claim 27 has been added. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request examination and an action on the merits.

The specification has been amended to include an indication of the priority claim.

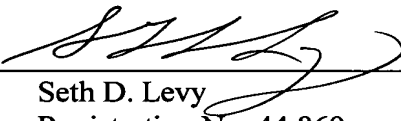
Claims 2-23 have been amended to begin with the article "The" rather than "A" in conformance with conventional U.S. practice. Claim 2 has been amended to employ proper Markush language in describing the groups of inventive elements recited therein. Claims 23-26 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies therein.

Claim 27 has been added to describe the "optional" feature described in Applicants' claim 26 as originally presented. Support for this amendment may be found throughout Applicants' specification, and in original claim 26.

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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